से ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): सिंहल जी, आपका स्पष्टीकरण हो गया। अब जैसा मैंने आपसे आग्रह किया था माननीय मंत्री जी को दूसरे सदन में जाना है, आप कृपया अपनी बात समाप्त करें।

श्री भारतेन्दु प्रकाश सिंहल: ठीक है । धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): माननीय गृह मंत्री जी, जो आपका दूसरा वक्तव्य है व ह आप सदन के पटल पर रखना चाहेंगे या वाचन करना चाहेंगे? क्योंकि आपको जाना है तो मुरादाबाद वाले वक्तव्य पर आप स्पष्टीकरण बाद में दे दें।

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी: कल दे देंगं या जब आप समय तय करें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): कल पांच बजे।

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी: ठीक है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): जो स्पष्टीकरण आपने पूछे हैं कल पांच बजे गृह मंत्री जी उनका उत्तर दे देंगे। यह सदन के पटल पर आप रखे दें। ...(व्यवधान)... हां, इसका भी स्पष्टीकरण आप कल पूछेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी: मैं सदन के पटल पर रख देता हूं।

कई माननीय सदस्य: यह वक्तव्य पढ़ा जाना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): ठीक है, पढ़ दीजिए। सदस्यों की राय है क्योंकि एक संसद सदस्य की हत्या का मामला है, कृपया उसका वाचन कर दें। स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछ लेंगे।

BRUTAL MURDER OF SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): On July 25, 2001, Members of the House were naturally shocked when they heard about the ghastly incident in which Shrimati Phoolan Devi, Member of Parliament, was brutally murdered outside her residence.

Preliminary inquiries revealed that she had, on the fateful day, gone to Parliament House Annexe Dispensary for a physiotherapy session at the end of which she and her Personal Security Officer, Shri Balinder Singh, were driven to her residence at 44, Ashoka Road, New Delhi by Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya, her Party colleague, also a Member-of Pariiament, in his car. She and her PSO alighted from the car outside her residence at around 1.20 PM and as they were walking towards the entrance gate, the assailants wearing masks fired at them. The PSO retumed the fire. Shrimati Phoolan Devi was hit by six bullets from close range. She was rushed to the nearby Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where she was declared "brought dead". Her PSO sustained serious bullet injuries and was

operated upon on 26m July, 2001. After the doctors confirmed that he was in a fit condition to make a statement, his statement was recorded by the police on 28th and 29* July, 2001.

The masked assailants were reported to have fled away in their getaway car which they abandoned not far from the scene of the crime to make good their escape in an auto-rickshaw. A red alert was sounded and a massive operation was immediately launched to apprehend the killers. The driver in whose auto-rickshaw the assailants had escaped was traced, and questioned. The abandoned car was examined and some clues were lifted which included two revolvers and some live and a few empty cartridges.

Inquiries on the day of the murder itself pointed to one Sher Singh Rana as the prime suspect. He had earlier in the day come to Shrimati Phoolan Devi's residence alongwith Shrimati Uma Kashyap and her husband, Shri Vijay Kashyap. It was he who had driven Shrimati Phoolan Devi in the getaway car from her residence to outside Parliament House premises. This lead was vigorously pursued. Shrimati Uma Kashyap and her husband were interrogated at length. Special police teams were constituted and deputed to conduct raids at possible hideouts of Sher Singh Rana at Dehradun, Haridwar and Roorkee. A large number of his close relatives and other acquaintances were interrogated. It seems the pressure mounted by the police eventually forced Sher Singh Rana to come out of hiding. He is reported to have claimed before Uttranchal Police that he had killed Shrimati Phoolan Devi to avenge the Bahmai massacre. Sher Singh Rana was later brought to Delhi and produced before the court which remanded him to police custody for ten days.

In the course of Sher Singh's interrogation by Delhi Police, he disclosed the names of three other persons allegedly involved in the crime, namely, Shekhar Thakur, Rajender and Rajbir Gujjar. All these three alleged accomplices were arrested in Saharanpur on July 30, 2001. They were produced before the court on July 31, 2001 and remanded to police custody for 14 days. The investigation further revealed that two cars were used for the commission of the crime. Both these cars belonged to Sher Singh Rana. Sher Singh Rana also disclosed that he had thrown away two country made weapons near the scene of the crime. These were located and seized. Further investigations in the matter are being pursued with all vigour and urgency.

It has been alleged in some quarters that the personal security

provided to Shrimati Phoolan Devi had been downgraded by the Government. I emphatically deny this allegation. In July, 1994, she had been provided with three plainclothes personal security officers functioning round-the-clock in three shifts. In addition, the Government of Uttar Pradesh had provided one armed police person for her security. This arrangement continued till the very end.

Shrimati Phoolan Devi's life, as the hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha stated in his obituary on July 26, reflected the social realities of contemporary India. But hers was also a life that showed the inner struggles of a woman who wanted to transcend her past.

The dastardly killing of Shrimati Phoolan Devi has once again highlighted the cancer of criminalisation of politics that has afflicted Indian democracy. Every criminal act has a target. And the target of criminalisation of politics is our democratic system itself. Every incident of criminality wounds and weakens this system. Every killing, irrespective of which party the victim belongs to, corrodes the prestige, credibility and effectiveness of the political class as a whole. Hence, I earnestly plead to every political party neither to encourage, directly or indirectly, any kind of association with criminal elements nor to succumb to the temptation of trying to derive political mileage when unfortunate incidents take place.

Our Parliament has discussed the issue of criminalisation of politics on many occasions in the past. The time has come to transform our common concern into a strong all-party consensus and an effective antidote to this cancerous phenomenon.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): श्रीमती फूलन देवी, संसद सदस्य की नृशंस हत्या के संबंध में जो वक्तव्य दिया गया है उस पर स्पष्टीकरण कल पूछे जाएंगे और साथ ही जो मुरादाबाद जिले के सिरसवां गांव में 6 लोगों की हत्या के संबंध में वक्तव्य दिया गया जिसमें माननीय सदस्यों ने स्पष्टीकरण पूछे हैं, उस पर माननीय गृह मंत्री जी कल उत्तर देंगे।

सदन की कार्यवाही कल 3 अगस्त, प्रात: 11.00 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned at thirty-four minutes past six of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 3rt August, 2001.